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## **Sen. Garcia's bill to bring defense and homeland security jobs to Michigan heads to the governor**

**LANSING**—With thousands of manufacturing jobs leaving Michigan every year, state Senator Valde Garcia, R-Howell, and other members of the Legislature voted today to create an office within the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) whose sole purpose is to find communities that need jobs and match them with defense and homeland security contracts.

“Michigan was known as the arsenal of democracy during World War II,” said Garcia, who sponsored Senate Bill 727. “With America at war, it is imperative that our troops have the best equipment so they can properly do their jobs and come home safely.

“Most of their equipment has to be made in the United States, and it should be made in Michigan. We have the manufacturing infrastructure and a highly trained workforce. Those jobs can put many Michigan residents back to work this year.”

The office, known as the Defense Contract Coordination Center (DC3) will receive money appropriated from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Fund.

SB 727 now heads to the governor for approval.

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